

W. C. T. U. COLUMN.

[Owosso W.C.T.U. meets second and fourth Wednesday of each month, at 3 p.m., in Club Parlor, Salisbury Block; Mrs. H. N. Reed, President; Mrs. A. H. Parkhill, Secretary.]

The union temperance meeting held in the Congregational Church, Sunday evening, May 7th, was highly gratifying to those who are anxious to "have the people come to a knowledge of the truth" in regard to the question of the drink-evil, its possible suppression. The church was crowded with attentive listeners. The speaker, Charles Towne, of Lansing, handled the question of license and prohibition in a manner that proved he thoroughly understood his subject, and his clear, logical, forcible presentation of the matter, must have carried conviction to the candid listener, that prohibition of the liquor traffic is not only a right, but a duty. His carefully prepared statistics, of the results of prohibition, in those states where it has been enforced, leave no ground for the stale observation, "prohibition is a failure."

It is a happy omen for the future of our Government, when the young men who aspire to become statesmen and leaders, place themselves so squarely and fearlessly in opposition to this crying evil, the liquor traffic. May their number be multiplied, and their tribes increase.

Teach the Boys

In riding with our little boy, recently, we passed a brewery, and the occasion was improved to tell him how such a place makes drunkards of the men who work in it, and drunkards of the men who drink the beer made in it. We told him how such a place robbed little children of food and clothes, and made mothers weep, grow ill, and die; that it took the grain out of the mouths of the poor, made men so crazy that they often killed each other, sometimes their own wives and children, and ruined the souls of makers, sellers, and drinkers. That boy will never forget what a brewery does to people. We mothers have object-lessons enough, if we only use them. We use "line upon line" with our girls, but let our boys learn the world for themselves. We don't begin early enough. Satan has the garden all grown to weeds sometimes, before we deem it late enough to sow the flower seeds. The "street" educates them while they are out nights. They are not "out nights" if parents do their duty. Said a prisoner: "I had a good home education; it was my street education that ruined me. I use to slip out of the house and go off with the boys in the street. In the street I learned to lounge; in the street I learned to swear; in the street I learned to smoke; in the street I learned to gamble; in the street I learned to pilfer. Oh, sir, it is in the street the devil lurks to work the ruin of the young!" Sarah Wesley taught her boys to love the Gospel, and they preached that Gospel. The mother of Samuel J. Mills began her work early, talking and praying with him while in college as well, and the American Board of Foreign Missions was the result. It is hard to erase a mother's writings from a boy's heart. It is easy for Satan to make his mark on a page where there is no writing. S. K. B.

Alcohol to Aid Digestion.

Lady Jane Ellice was President of the Ladies' National Temperance Convention which assembled in London, May, 1876. She had often heard from ladies certain reasons why they should not or could not abstain. She had therefore submitted to Dr. B. W. Richardson, an eminent physician of London, a short series of questions on these points, and the following is his reply with reference to the aid afforded to digestion by the use of alcohol:

"The common idea that alcohol acts as an aid to digestion is without foundation. Experiments on the artificial digestion of food, in which the natural process is very closely imitated, show that the presence of alcohol in the solvents employed interferes with and weakens the efficacy of the solvents. It is also one of the most definite of facts that persons who indulge even in what is called the moderate use of alcohol suffer often from dyspepsia from this cause alone. They acquire a morbid feeling that they can not take food

in the absence of stimulants; in some instances they are led to take more fluid and less solid than is natural, and in other instances more of both kinds of food than can be healthily assimilated and applied. Thus, the use of the stimulant leads to flatulency after meals, to tendency to sleep, to indolence of mind and body, and to disturbed rest; in fact, it leads to the symptoms which, under the varied names of biliousness, nervousness, lassitude, and indigestion, are so well and so extensively known.

"From the inevitable paralysis of the minute blood-vessels which is induced by alcohol, there occurs, when alcohol is introduced into the stomach, ingestion of the vessels and redness of the mucous lining of the stomach. This is attended by the subjective feeling of a warmth or glow within the body, and is followed by an increased secretion of the gastric fluids. It is urged by the advocates of alcohol that this action of alcohol on the stomach is a reason for its employment as an aid to digestion, especially when the digestive powers are feeble. At best the argument suggests only an artificial aid which it can not be sound practice to make permanent in place of the natural process of digestion. In truth, the artificial stimulation, if it be resorted to even moderately, is in time deleterious. It excites over-secretion of the stomach and acidity, and in the end it leads to weakened contractile power of the vessels of the stomach, to consequent deficiency of control of those vessels over the current of blood, to organic impairment of function, and to confirmed indigestion.

"On these grounds alone I infer that alcohol is no proper aid to digestion. I know from daily observation that when it is felt to be a necessary aid, it is doing actual mischief, the very feeling of the necessity being the best proof of the injury that is being inflicted. Lastly, on this head, it is a matter of experience with me that, in nine cases out of ten, the sense of the necessity, on which so much is urged, is removed in the readiest manner by the simple plan of total abstinence, without any other remedy or method. When, in exceptional cases, total abstinence fails, other remedies, as a rule, also fail, and this is an indication that the natural functional activity of the digestive organs is irrevocably destroyed."

It is an important fact, strangely overlooked, that even if alcohol does promote secretion of the gastric juice, it destroys the efficacy of that fluid as soon as it comes in contact with it, thus exhausting the power of the stomach and not adding to the amount of available gastric juice.

Band Tournament Prizes.

The following is the list of prizes to be contested for at the state band tournament, the 7th and 8th of June:

FIRST PRIZES.

- First class—Gold premium \$150.
- Second class—Gold premium \$80.
- Third class—Gold premium \$60.
- Fourth class—Gold premium \$40.

SECOND PRIZE

- First class—Gold premium \$90.
- Second class—Gold premium \$65.
- Third class—Bb cornet, \$40.
- Fourth class—Premium \$25.

THE NATIONAL CORNET CONTEST.

Grand prize, \$200.

MICHIGAN AMATEUR CORNET CONTEST.

First prize—One equal-tone solo Bb cornet, \$105. Presented by C. G. Conn, Elkhart, Ind.; his late patent, and the best cornet in the world.

Second prize—Gold premium \$40.

Third prize—Music, \$20. By Detroit Music Company.

TROMBONE AND BARITONE SOLO CONTEST.

First prize—Gold premium \$80.

Second prize—Trombone, \$70. Made by C. G. Conn, Elkhart, Ind.

MARCHING AND APPEARANCE.

First prize—Gold premium \$25.

Second prize—Music, \$20.

LADIES BANDS.

First prize—Gold premium, \$40.

Second prize—Music, \$25.

Two bands must compete in each class to ensure the giving of the first prize. Three bands must compete in each class to ensure the giving of the second prize. The baritone contest will come off on the evening of the 7th. The professional and amateur cornet contest will come off on the evening of the 8th.

SCIENTIFIC PRIZES.

Mr. H. H. Warner, of Rochester, N. Y., has made the following offer to all discoverers of comets or meteors during the present year.

The discoverers of four of the comets of 1881, having complied with all the conditions, were each awarded the Warner Comet Prize of two hundred dollars. Prof. Lewis Boss has also been paid the two hundred dollar prize awarded him by the judges for the best essay on comets.

Desiring to continue the prizes for scientific discoveries, I beg leave to announce, than for 1882, on or after this date, I will give three prizes, as follows, subject to the conditions named:

PRIZE FIRST.

Two hundred dollars in gold for each discovery of a new comet made in the United States, Canada, Great Britain or Ireland.

1. It may be discovered either by telescope or the naked eye, but must be unexpected, except as to the comet of 1812 which may reappear during the year.

2. The announcement of the discovery must be made confidentially and exclusively (by telegraph) to Dr. Lewis Swift, director of the Warner Observatory, Rochester, N. Y., and to him alone, and he will cause the same to be immediately telegraphed, together with the name of the discoverer, to all parts of the world.

3. The telegram must give the time of discovery, the position, and direction of motion if possible, sufficiently exact to enable at least one other observer to find it. Three disinterested astronomers will be selected by Dr. Swift, to decide all disputed questions.

PRIZE SECOND.

The sum of two hundred dollars, for any Meteoric Stone found in any of the above countries during 1882, which Prof. Henry A. Ward, of Rochester, N. Y., Principal Dawson, of Montreal, Canada, and J. Lawrence Smith, of Louisville, Ky., shall unanimously decide contains fossil remains of animal or vegetable life, thus proving the inhabitability of other planets.

PRIZE THIRD.

The sum of fifty dollars, for a specimen of any Meteoric Stone, (whether it contains organic remains or not,) seen to fall in the United States during 1882.

A specimen (which shall become the property of the Warner Observatory) of not less than two ounces in weight, must be sent by mail to Dr. Swift, accompanied by a descriptive letter written in English, giving the time of its fall, depth of penetration in the soil, weight of the entire stone, direction of flight, and such other facts regarding it as will be of value to science.

Buying Good Stock.

No man should buy good stock of any kind unless he has good pastures, and fairly comfortable shelter for winter. He buys, of course, with two objects in view: 1st, To replace the common with the improved, for the gratification that accrues from this; 2dly, That the profits may be enhanced. Neither object can be attained unless the animals be well kept on abundant grass in summer, and given such feed and protection in winter as will maintain, quite nearly, the summer condition. This is as easy to do with good, healthy thoroughbreds of any breed as with the dairy cow kept in such manner as will guarantee that she yields a profit.

It is too commonly the case at sales, that the animals of breeding age that are fat, outsell the regular breeders and large milkers that are thin. Men sometimes are badly deceived by preferring the animal that gives evidence of being apparently an easy fatterer, to one that shows evidences of being a regular breeder. It should be borne in mind that it is easier to put flesh upon a thin animal, if bred with a view to flesh, than to get progeny from a shy breeder, rendered so by being made overfat through high feeding, or inheriting a strongly fixed tendency to fleshiness, accumulating this from ordinary feed; in other words, from grass alone.—National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.

All our druggists now heartily endorse the amazing success of Magneto Medicine and recommend it for both sexes in all cases of seminal weakness. See advertisement in another column.

Effects of Changing the Diet of Dairy Cows.

It is a fact well established by the experience of dairymen, that cows which are regularly fed with grain while they are at pasture, even if the pasture is fresh and plenty, will give more milk and make more butter or cheese than cows equally good, but living on grass only; yet, if a liberal ration of meal is given to the cows living on the fresh grass, the first effect is to cause them to shrink in their milk; and if the cows which have become accustomed to have meal with their grass have the meal suddenly taken away, they will also shrink, the pasture in both cases being equally fresh and plenty. The loss of milk in neither case can be charged to the inferiority of the feed, since the changes in feed are the reverse of each other, while the effects are alike. The effect is due to a change in the action of the stomach, to adapt its character to the digestion of an established food. The food may change suddenly, but the action of the stomach can only change slowly, and hence defective digestion follows. This change in the quality of the gastric agencies is much more rapid and marked in young than in old or middle-aged animals. Calves and infants often show such a sensitiveness in regard to the action of their stomachs that they are made sick simply by a change of milk from one cow to that of another, which differs from the first but slightly. Though such differences are less marked in adult animals, they must not be overlooked in making changes of food. Changes from hay to grass especially need to be guarded and gradual, or serious disturbances may follow.—National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.

Remarkable Coincidence.

It is a matter of journalistic record, that some years since, a schooner set sail from Baltimore, having on board a crew of thirteen men. By a most singular freak of nature the entire crew was attacked by a skin disease, which manifested itself in large ulcerated sores on the arms and hands, wholly incapacitating the men from duty. The result was that the vessel was towed back to the city where the men were placed in the hospital. Moral: Had Swaine's Ointment for skin diseases been used in the first place, the crew would have recovered in from 12 to 24 hours.

Ensilage at Michigan Agricultural College.

One of the most satisfactory reports of experiments with ensilage at the West, which we have seen, is that of Prof. Johnson, of the Michigan Agricultural College. A silo was built in the basement of a new barn. Its dimensions were 14x15x8 feet, made with stone, with sides and bottom cemented. A frame extended four feet above the stone wall. Two-inch plank were used in covering, the weights being stone. The cost of the silo was \$151.90.

The silo was filled the middle of September with corn grown in drills 3½ feet apart, 1½ bushel of seed per acre being used—thought to have been too much. The stalks were cut into half-inch pieces. The corn was not weighed when put in, but there were 20 tons of food as fed out from 1½ acres of land. The cost of raising the crop and putting it in silo was \$41.81. The fodder kept with very little loss, and was readily eaten by the cattle. Prof. Johnson reports himself much pleased with the results of the feeding trials. He thinks one ration a day of dry fodder should be fed in connection with the ensilage. Grain of some kind should be fed. All the cattle fed on it continued in good health. Prof. J. says:

"The convenience in handling the prepared fodder; the large amount that can be stored in a small space; the avidity with which cattle eat it, and thrive and grow when a small ration is fed with it; the fact that it can be stored in a wet time, during lowering weather, when fodder could not be cured; the furnishing of succulent food for stock during our long winter at very small cost—these are some of the reasons that led me to think the ensilaging of corn especially will prove to be a practical and profitable method of preparing food for stock. I think it may take the place of roots and be a cheap substitute for them."

Mr. J. F. Cary, Columbus, O., writes: "I tried Brown's Iron Bitters with my little girl, whose blood seemed poisoned, her skin being constantly covered with pimples and sores. It has cured her completely, and all traces of impure blood in her system has entirely disappeared."

A State Farmer's Alliance was organized in Kalamazoo, on Wednesday of last week. S. Hume, of Battle Creek, President. Eight Alliances were represented.

An Astrologist on Horoscopes.

The activities of the Queen's children all show some individuality and character. The second son, Prince Alfred, as he was formerly distinguished, was born at Windsor, August 6, 1844, at 7:50 a.m., with the eighteenth degree of Virgo ascending. The most notable position at his birth was the close conjunction of the Sun and Mars in the sign Leo. This denotes a great liability to fevers and violent accidents. The Prince of Wales, who with many faults is yet remarkable for his *bon homie*, and for the strong personal regard in which he is held by his immediate friends and the people in his domestic establishments. The favorite epithet applied to the heir apparent is the word jovial, and the correspondents tell us much of his affable hobnobbing with actors, literary men and others. The Prince of Wales was born with Jupiter rising—hence jovial is a very correct word. All these words, descriptive briefly, succinctly and graphically of character, are relics of the former general belief in astrology. From this doctrine we have our words saturnine, mercurial, martial, etc. It is curious, indeed, to what extent we may trace in this direction the old doctrine of planetary influence, even in the most of our proverbs and common phrases. "He may thank his stars," "his lucky stars," etc., are examples in every-day use, and Shakespeare is notably fond of such expressions. He speaks of the "star-crossed lovers, Romeo and Juliet; of the happy Christmas time, "when no planet strikes," of "the moon coming nearer the earth than is her wont and making men mad," and in fifty other places of the belief in occult influence. The same is found in the other old poets. The unfortunate Princess Alice had an interesting horoscope. She was born as Venus was rising and possessed many available and attractive qualities, and was one of the most popular members of the family. The Sun was in conjunction with Mercury and approximately in parallel with Jupiter. Her mental faculties were very bright, and it was said that while yet in her teens she was one of the most highly accomplished young ladies of Great Britain, particularly fond of books and art, and with a mind of wider sphere in many ways than usual. The Sun was the hyleg, or life-giver, at her birth, and was afflicted by the sequitate aspect of Mars, the same evil planet also afflicting the Moon by square aspect. The Sun was in the sign Taurus, which rules the throat, and the unfortunate lady contracted that terrible

mandy, diphtheria, and fell a victim to it. She caught the infection by kissing one of her children who was suffering with the disease. This diphtheria is strictly martial disease and in the horoscopes of those who are stricken with it the planet Mars will invariably be seen to occupy some malignant position at birth, and also to exercise an influence in the directions at the time when the malady appears. At those periods when he is traversing the signs Taurus and Scorpio thousands of children may be observed to be swept away by it. This was remarkably exhibited the last time Mars made his long stay in Taurus.—Baltimore News.

Fate of an Acrobat.

We see no more good reason for making a stage business of such exercise as may develop one's physical health and strengthen the limbs, than for making a public business of keeping one's teeth and hands clean. What mother would wish her son to be a professional rope-dancer or circus-tumbler—not to mention her daughter? Aside from the unnaturalness and debasing effect of such a life, the "accidents" to which even the best-trained and most experienced performers are liable are too frequent and of too sad a kind to be generally known. It is for the showman's interest to keep them secret.

When a "great show" recently came to the city of Brooklyn, a family group of three persons sat down together in the breakfast-table. They were acrobats of unsurpassed agility and skill. A salacious woman, a young man of middle size, a girl just entering her teens.

There had been four of them prior to a recent performance, but the "star," an older girl, the most daring of them all, had "missed her motion" in a feat of uncommon peril, and had fallen upon the receding-net.

"She was but slightly injured," all were told who cared or thought to ask, but the little group at the table knew that she was dying.

They performed their parts, that day, as skillfully as ever, though with so much more weight than usual to carry, but when the evening exhibition was over, there were indeed, but three of them. The fourth had gone forever.—St. Nicholas.

The Pacific corporation, which is the largest of its kind in the world, does not export a yard of its immense production.

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